

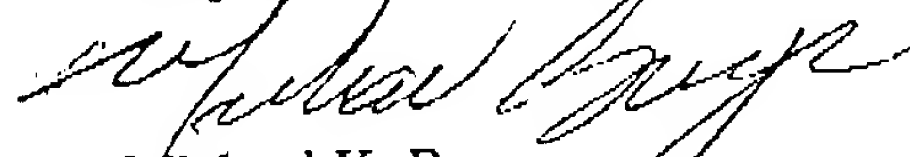
REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending in this Application. In the Amendment dated November 05, 2002, Claims 1, 14, 21, 24 and 25 were amended, and new Claim 26 was added for consideration by the Examiner. The Advisory Action mailed on November 15, 2002 indicated that this Amendment was not entered. Applicants respectfully request that the finality of the Office Action mailed on July 31, 2002 be withdrawal, and the Amendment dated November 05, 2002 be entered as a response to a Non-Final Office Action.

The Office Action mailed on July 31, 2002 was not clearly indicated as being a Final Office Action. Boxes 2a and 2b were checked on the Form PTO 326 attached to the Action. More importantly, the text of this Office Action lacks any indication that the action was Final (e.g., refer to Page 3 of the July 31, 2002 Action). Applicants, therefore, respectfully submit that the Action mailed on July 31, 2002 is properly held as being Non-Final (i.e., Applicants did not receive proper notice that the status of the Action was final). Accordingly, the Amendment dated November 05, 2002 should be entered as a response to a Non-Final Office Action.

Should there be any fee due in connection with this Application, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 15-0680 (Orscheln Management Company). Should the Examiner deem that any further action on the part of Applicant would advance prosecution, the Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' attorney.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Attachments: Certificate of Facsimile Transmission Dated: November 21, 2002